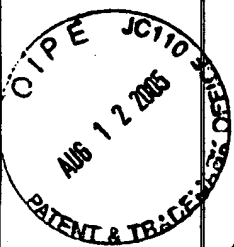


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Date of  
Signature

**UNITED STATES DEPT. OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Attorney Docket No.: C4264(C)  
Applicant: Carvell, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/726,740  
Filed: December 3, 2003  
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**STATUS INQUIRY PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.14(a)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants respectfully inquire as to the status of the above-identified patent application and would appreciate it if they could be informed as to when they can expect to receive the initial Office Action in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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